

EJSCREEN
EPA's Environmental
Justice Screening Tool



# **EJSCREEN**

# EPA'S ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING TOOL

# Overview of the Presentation

**EJSCREEN Background** 

Data in EJSCREEN

**EJSCREEN Maps and Reports** 

How is EJSCREEN Used?

Demonstration of Features in the Tool



# WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

# About Vulnerability

How we...

are born

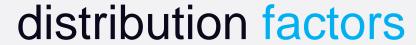
grow

live

learn

work

play



Race

Ethnicity

Social Standing

Income

Education

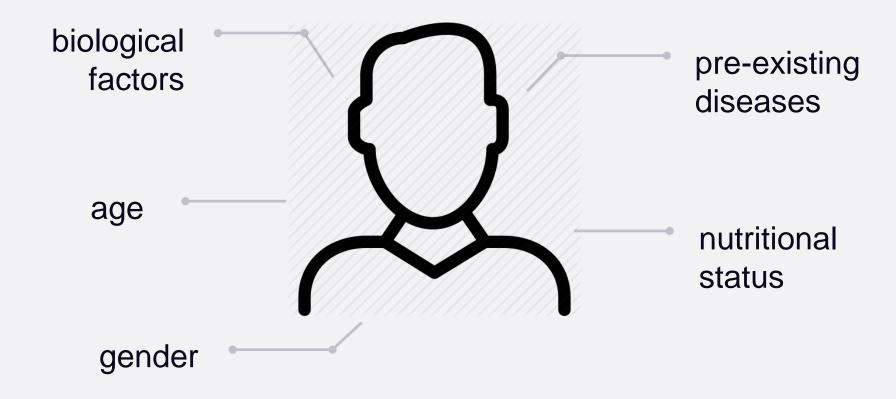


determinants





### About Susceptibility





# EJSCREEN —

## **EJSCREEN**

### www.epa.gov/ejscreen

#### What is EJSCREEN?



- What is EJSCREEN?
- How was It Developed?
- How Does EPA Use It?
- Purposes and Uses

#### **Understanding Results**



- Understanding EJSCREEN Results
- EJ Indexes
- Environmental Indicators
- Demographic Indicators
- How to Interpret a Standard Report

#### Learn to Use EJSCREEN



Learn to Use EJSCREEN

#### Launch the Tool



Launch the EJSCREEN Tool



#### **Technical Information**



- Technical Information
- Limitations and Caveats
- Download EJSCREEN Data

#### Additional Resources



- EJSCREEN Resources
- Frequent Questions about EJSCREEN
- Glossary of EJSCREEN Terms
- Other EPA Mapping Tools
- EJSCREEN Videos



Contact Us to ask a question, provide feedback, or report a problem.

### EJSCREEN Background



- EPA's new tool for EJ screening and mapping
- Web-based GIS tool and data for EPA and the public
- Plan EJ 2014 announced EPA's plan to create a new, nationally consistent EJ screening tool
- Builds upon NEJAC report on EJ screening, and prior work across EPA programs and Regions
- Incorporates comments from peer letter reviews by experts on geospatial tools and EJ
- Input from Regions
- Build upon previous EJ screening tools (e.g. EJView)



# **Key Features in EJSCREEN**



Wastewater discharge indicator

- 12 different environmental indicators
- Updated demographics ACS— every 1 year, not every 10 years
- A consistent, quantified approach to EJ
- Accessible and transparent to anyone with a web browser -> <a href="http://www2.epa.gov/ejscreen">http://www2.epa.gov/ejscreen</a>
- Standard printable reports and bar graphs
- Block groups rather than census tracts or counties.
- A wealth of additional data maps; can add more from the Web
- Raw data downloads are also available



# Understand these caveats before using

- Environmental indicators are mostly screening-level proxies for actual exposure or risk.
- Indicators vary. Estimates are based on historical data and may not reflect current or future conditions.
- EJSCREEN does not cover all environmental issues.
- EJSCREEN does not identify "EJ communities."



# EJSCREEN Data

# UNITS OF ANALYSIS

**United States** 

#### State

Primary governmental divisions of the United States.

### County

Largest divisions within states.

### **Census Tract**

Collection of Census block groups, mostly between 1,200 and 8,000 people.

### **Block Group**

Collection of residential blocks, mostly, between 600 and 3,000 people.

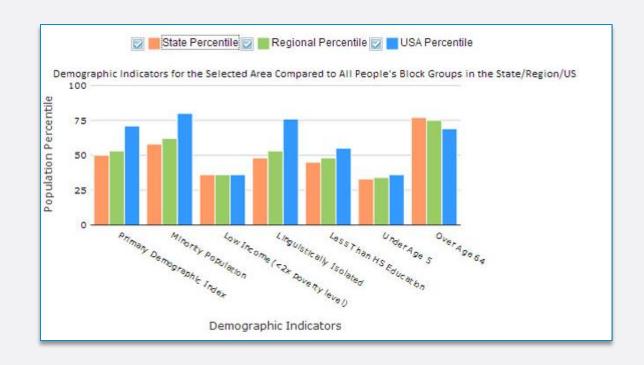
### Block

Residential block, bounded on all sides by streets.



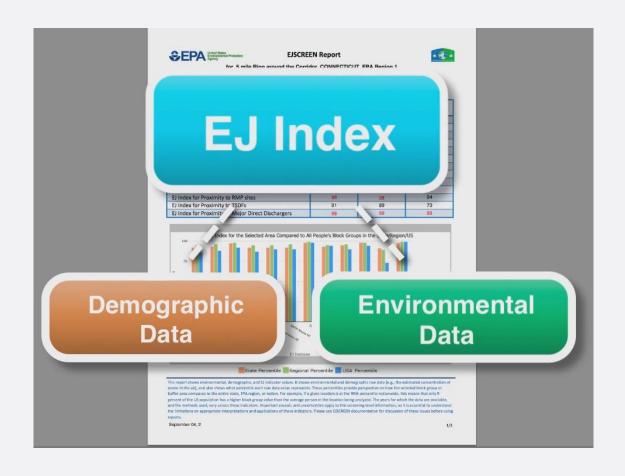
# Results are ranked as percentiles

- Percentiles put indicators into common units of 0 – 100.
- For example, a place at the 80th percentile nationwide means 20% of the US population has a higher value.
- Ranking values as percentiles allows comparison of indicators measured with different units. <u>It does not mean the risks</u> are equal or comparable.





### **EJ Indexes**



EJ indexes combine environmental and demographic data to highlight areas where vulnerable/susceptible populations may be disproportionately impacted by pollution.



<u>Click here</u> to watch a 5 minute video on how the EJ Indexes are constructed.

# EJSCREEN DEMONSTRATION

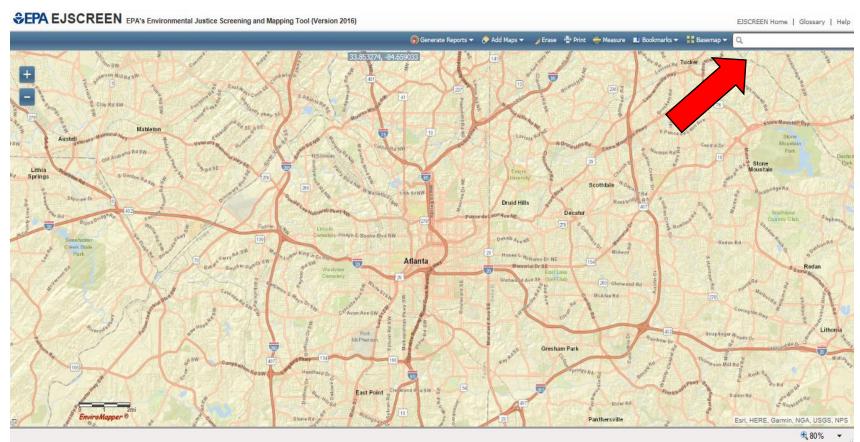
### **SCENARIO**

Your organization is submitting a \$1 million proposal to the City of Louisville. The grant will allow your organization to provide educational services for learners from Pre-K through college. This project is aimed at closing the achievement gap and creating a holistic, supportive educational experience for all.

Use EJSCREEN to develop a project proposal that identifies the community environmental health concerns that should be considered for the project.



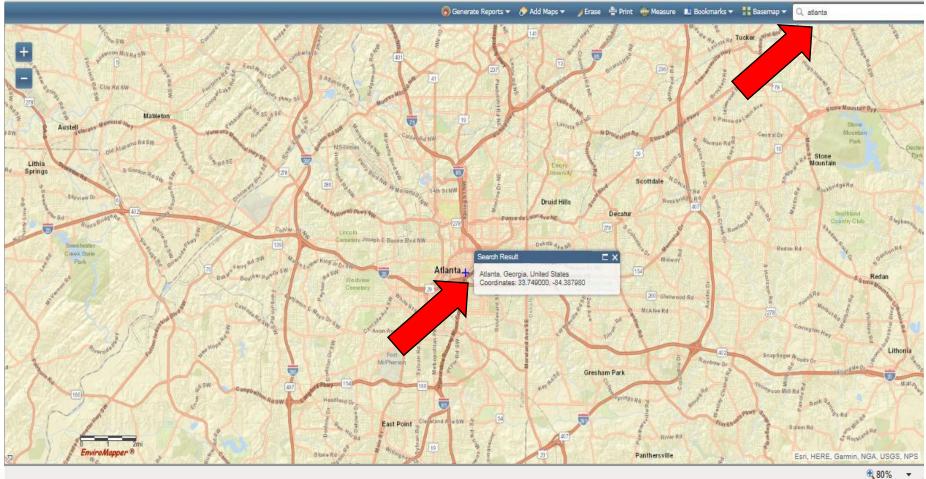
# Task 1: INPUT YOUR ADDRESS





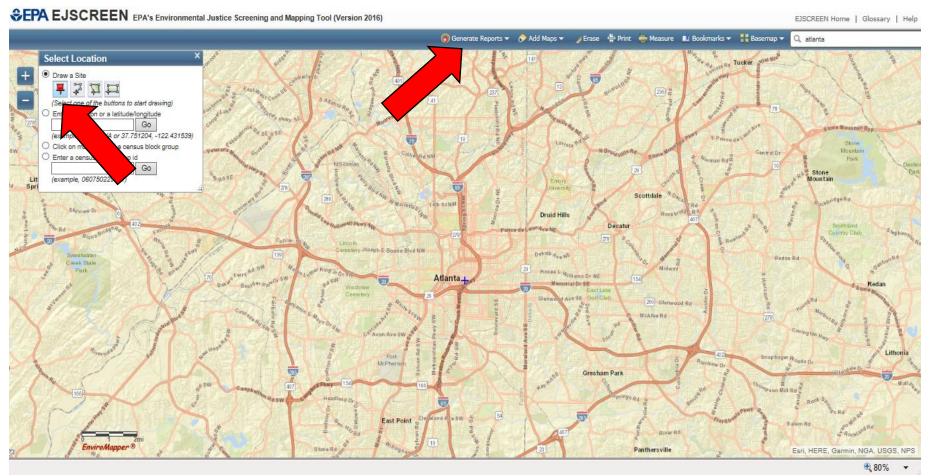
#### **ŞEPA EJSCREEN** EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2016)

EJSCREEN Home | Glossary | Help





## Task 2:GENERATE A REPORT





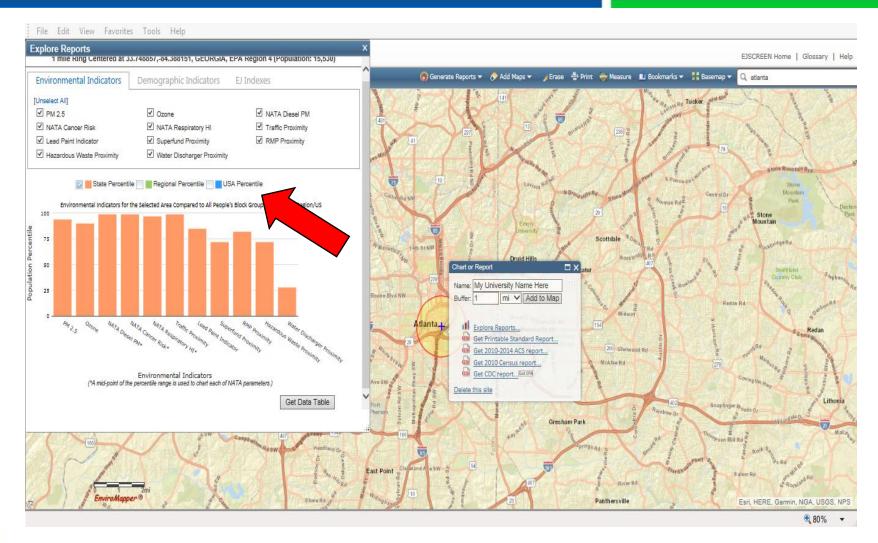
#### SEPA EJSCREEN EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2016) EJSCREEN Home | Glossary | Help Select Location Polyata Rd Tucker Draw a Site (Select one of the buttons to start drawing) or a latitude/longitude O Enter : Go (example, 37.751204, -122.431539) nsus block group Stone O Click on map Mountain O Enter a census bl Stone Mountain 2-pose (example, 06075022902 Lit Scottdale □ × atur Chart or Report Name: My University Name Here Cemetery Joseph E Boone Blvd N mi 🗸 Add to Map Reden Rd Greek State Explore Reports... Get Printable Standard Report... Get 2010-2014 ACS report... 260 Glanwood Rd Get 2010 Census report... McAfee Rd Get CDC report... Existing Delete this site Lithonia Snapfinger Woods Or McPherson Gresham Park

River Rd Panthersville

Esri, HERE, Garmin, NGA, USGS, NPS

€ 80% ▼



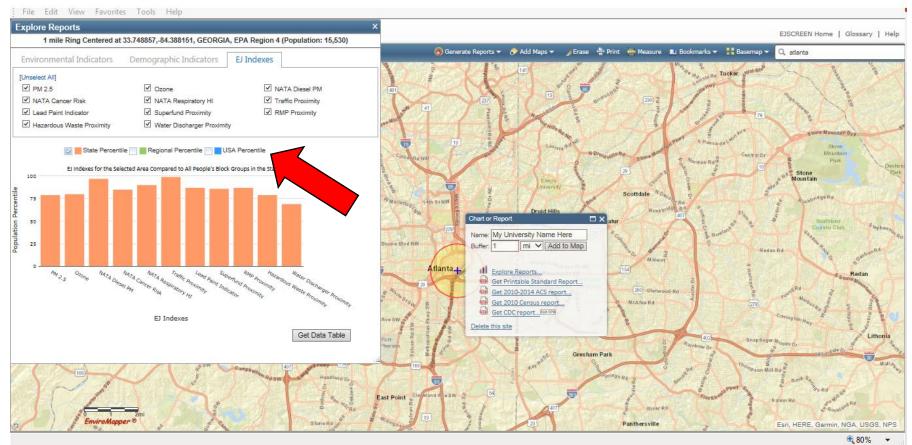




## QUESTION 1

Collect the following information from the report:
Environmental Indicators Above 80<sup>th</sup> Percentile







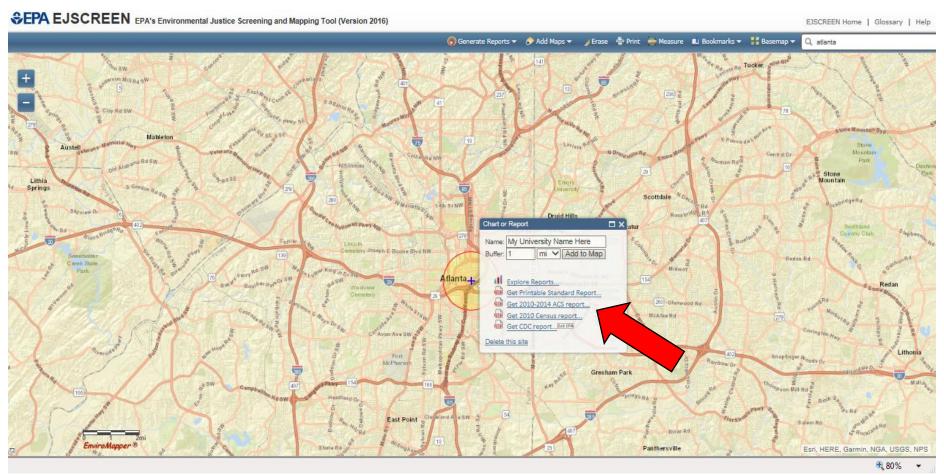
## QUESTION 3

Collect the following information from the report:

EJ Indexes Above 80th Percentile



# Task 3:GENERATE ACS Report





# Task 3:GENERATE ACS Report



### **EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report**



Location: User-specified point center at 33.748857, -84.388151

Ring (buffer): 1-mile radius

Description: My University Name Here

Summary of ACS Estimates	2010 - 2014
Population	15,530
Population Density (per sq. mile)	5,011
Minority Population	11,072
% Minority	71%
Households	6,577
Housing Units	8,248
Housing Units Built Before 1950	1,952
Per Capita Income	23,880
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)	3.10
% Land Area	100%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)	0.00
% Water Area	0%



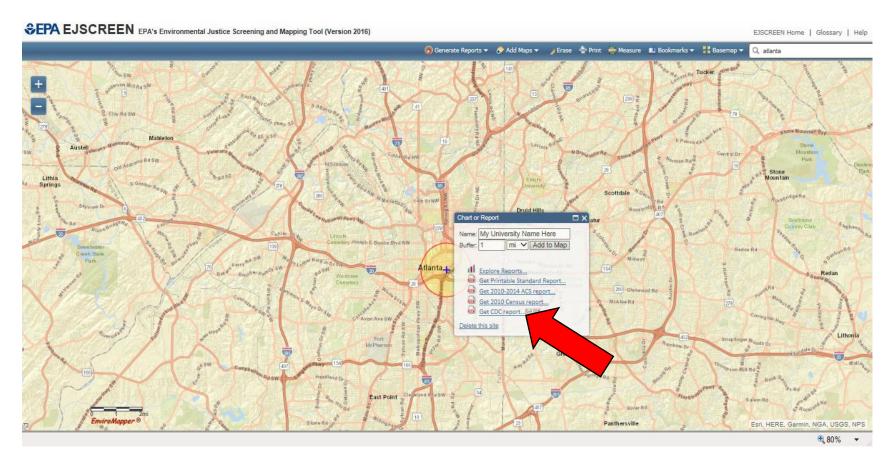
### **QUESTION 4**

As part of your application, the City requires you to conduct a bilingual community survey that ranks local needs.

Use the ACS report to explain which language you chose.



# Task 4:GENERATE CDC Report





### Air Quality: Particulate Matter<sup>†</sup>

Air pollution is a leading environmental threat to human health. Particles in the air like dust, dirt, soot, and smoke are one kind of air pollution called particulate matter. Fine particulate matter, or PM<sub>2.5</sub>, is so small that it cannot be seen in the air. Breathing in PM<sub>2.5</sub> may

- · lead to breathing problems,
- make asthma symptoms or some heart conditions worse, and
- · lead to low birth weight.

The national standard for annual  $PM_{2.5}$  levels is 12.0 $\mu$ g/m³. When  $PM_{2.5}$  levels are above 12, this means that air quality is more likely to affect your health.

In 2012, the annual level of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Queens County was 8.6µg/m³. \*

\* Micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m²)

ANNUAL AMBIENT CONCENTRATION OF PM<sub>2.5</sub>

8.6<sub>µg/m³\*</sub>

Queens County, New York

12.0<sub>μg/m³\*</sub>

**Annual National Standard** 

\*Micrograms Per Cubic Meter (µg/m³)

Discover the data | Learn more about this topic

† 2012 data from the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network

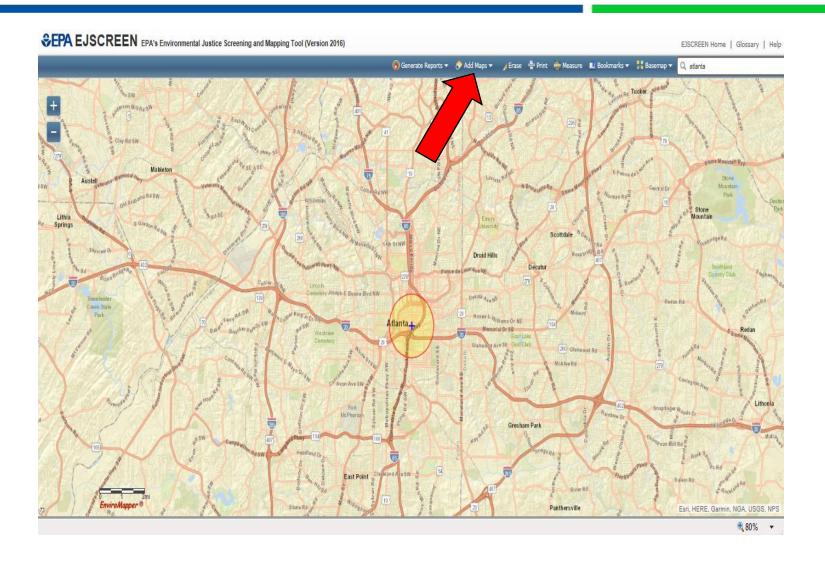




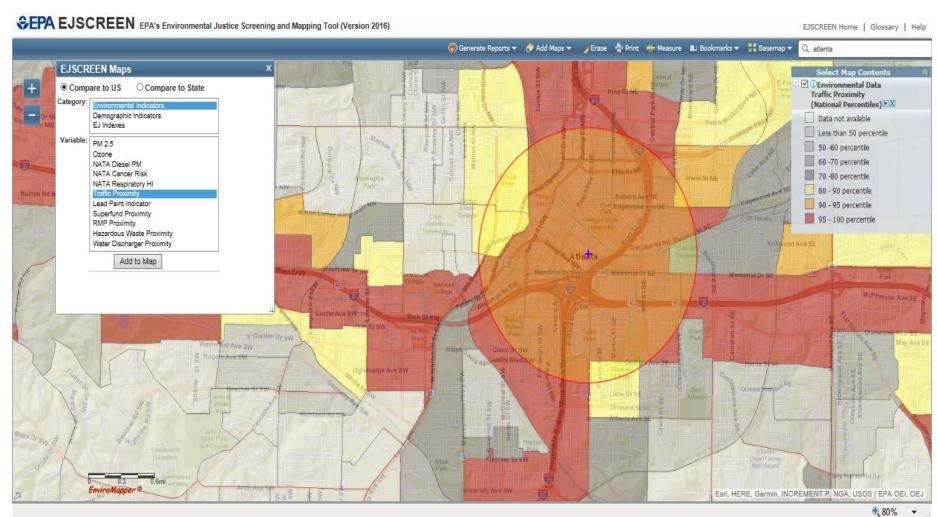
# QUESTION 5 Specific Population Health Concern.



# Task5: Add Maps







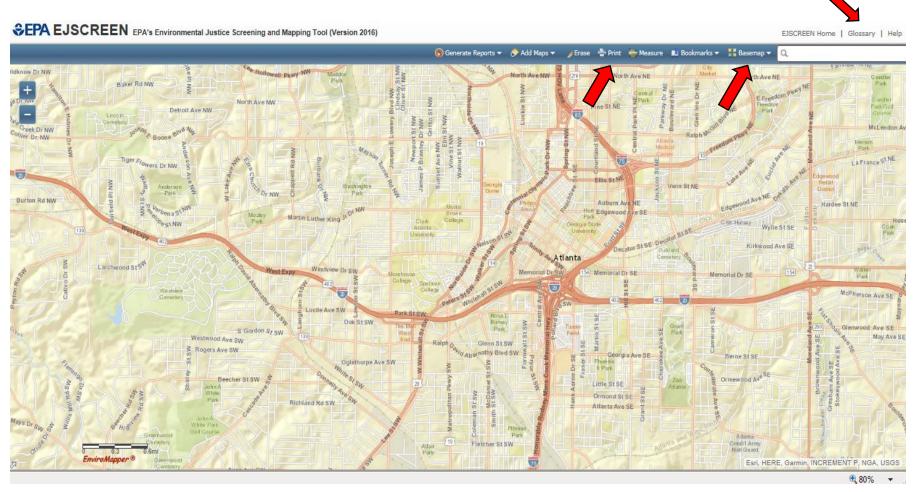


### QUESTION 6

What is the traffic proximity in your location? Suggest one way this value might impact the expansion project.



## **EJSCREEN**





# **Contact Information**

## **Questions?**

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